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SIU community celebrates life of Varughese



LEWIS MARIEN • DAILY EGYPTIAN Dakota Reynolds, left, and Rachel Birdsall, right, share their reflections on SIU student Pravin Varughese Wednesday during a remembrance service at the Newman Catholic Student Center in Carbondale.

SETH RICHARDSON Daily Egyptian

Despite the circumstances that brought them together, the ceremony celebrating Pravin Varughese's life was all smiles. Friends of Varughese, students, faculty and community members gathered at the Newman Center Wednesday to remember his life. The crowd shared memories and insights into his character after a short service. Varughese's body was found Feb. 18 after he was reported missing on the 13th. The autopsy reported Varughese succumbed to hypothermia. The night he went missing there were below-freezing temperatures and he was found without a coat. The police are treating the death as an accident and do not suspect foul play, but the investigation is ongoing. Pastor Bob Gray, chaplain to the Carbondale Police Department, said he consulted with the family to find an appropriate way to remember Varughese. "We asked the family what they thought would be helpful and the family said that they thought it would be good to have something down here," he said. "They didn't know if they could come, but I said we would videotape it and send it to them." The ceremony began with a reading of Matthew 5:1-12, by the Rev. Larry Lemay of the Newman Center. After a performance of "On Eagle's Wings," the crowd was asked to share their memories of Varughese. Rachel Birdsall, a junior from Jacksonville studying architecture, said she remembered him as an energetic, goofy character.

Please see PRAVIN • 2

Common experience brings two together

ELIZABETH ZINCHUK Daily Egyptian

University President Glenn Poshard was just an 18-year-old U.S. Army soldier when he volunteered to visit an orphanage in Korea where 11-year-old Jini Roby lived. The two were reunited Wednesday morning. Poshard has become a University president, and Roby a distinguished global researcher of issues connected to children at risk and professor at Brigham Young University. Roby's lecture Wednesday at the Carbondale Civic Center, titled "Issues in Child Welfare-Here and Around the Globe," addressed issues such as protection from abuse, neglect and exploitation. As a child in an orphanage, she used her experience to research global issues of children at risk. Roby also works to promote new national policies and procedures for providing child protection and welfare services. "My experiences growing up and in the orphanage really guide me," she said. Poshard said he saw mention of Roby in a BYU publication. When he realized she said she was an orphan at the same orphanage he once volunteered at while

serving in the Army, he emailed her. Roby said the email fell out of the blue, but it persuaded her to meet one of the volunteers who helped out at the orphanage. "I was so thrilled, I have such fond memories of the volunteers who came and showed us they cared and just treated us like we were important," Roby said. Poshard said when the opportunity to visit the orphanage came up in Korea it seemed natural to help out. He said he was raised to care about children's wellbeing. "They really were about the only ones who made us feel that way because being an orphan and living in an orphanage is a very second-or third-class experience in Korea." Roby and Poshard met for the first time in decades Wednesday. Poshard said he was happy to meet Roby and reflect on an experience which made a huge impact on his life. "It was a wonderful experience for me, I got a lot more out of it than I gave, and you always do in those situations," Poshard said. When Poshard helped out at the orphanage and played

Please see ROBY • 2



ROBERT OLSON • DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU President Glenn Poshard and Brigham Young University professor Jini Roby speak with Chancellor Rita Cheng Wednesday at the Stone Center. Poshard met Roby at the orphanage while he was stationed in Seoul, Korea in 1964-65. Roby gave a lecture on issues in child welfare at the Carbondale Civic Center Wednesday.

Increase in parking to increase decal cost

LUKE NOZICKA Daily Egyptian

SIU students can look forward to future renovations and more parking availability. Patti Diggle, coordinator of the Department of Public Safety Parking Division, said there are now 225 new parking spaces on campus. She said the university is pushing to add more red decal parking areas for students.

"We're not here to stick a spoke in everyone's wheels," she said. "We're trying to maintain some kind of stability, consistency and fairness about parking and that's why we decided to increase the amount of red parking availability in that area of campus." Kevin Bame, vice chancellor for administration and finance, said the university has two new parking lots available for decal sticker users. Bame said the university

converted Lot 13A, which was previously metered, to a red and blue decal sticker lot and added 90 new spaces for students. Diggle said there are four new handicapped-parking spaces in 13A. Bame said City Lot 3, located by the blue barracks, is ready for use as well, after being leased from the City of Carbondale. The lease is a two-year agreement for \$10,000 a year and consists of 135 parking spaces. In order to exit Lot 3, one must

drive south on Washington Street around the Brush Towers and then north on Logan Drive to intersect Wall Street just south of East Grand. The university will determine the future of the lot in two years depending on feedback and consistent use from students and faculty. The university is considering raising the prices of decals to pay for this lease. Yellow stickers may increase by \$15, making them \$40, while red

and green may increase by \$20, making them \$110. Pricing for faculty and staff depends on their salary and decals may increase anywhere from \$10 to \$55. The recommendations go into effect July 1 based on the chancellor's approval. Bame said decal sales account for more than \$1 million dollars per year.

Please see PARKING • 4

Problems in higher ed See Pg 5

Oscar predictions See Pg 4

Baseball stadium not ready See Pg 12

POLICE BLOTTER
FEBRUARY 27

CARBONDALE POLICE

Carbondale Police Department responded to the 400 block of South Graham Avenue in report of theft Wednesday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 1200 block of East Main Street in report of breaking and entering Wednesday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 500 block of Saluki Boulevard in report of assault Thursday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 400 block of West Jackson Street in report of an intoxicated person Thursday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 1000 block of East Park Street in report of sexual assault Thursday.

Carbondale Police Department responded to the 300 block of West Jackson Street in report of a man down Thursday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 500 block of Saluki Boulevard in report of assault Thursday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 700 block of South Rawlings Street in report of theft Friday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 200 block of Neely Drive in report of theft Friday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 700 block of East Grand Avenue in report of battery Friday.
Carbondale Police Department responded to the 700 block of East Grand Avenue in report of battery Friday.

SOURCE: CARBONDALE CITY POLICE, SIUC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DPS CRIME LOG

There was a false fire alarm reported Saturday at Brown Hall. An unidentified suspect extinguished a fire extinguisher. There were not reports of injury or fire.
Heather N. Gee, a 20-year-old from Williamsport, Ind., was arrested Saturday for the underage consumption of alcohol. Ryan M. Losee, a 19-year-old freshman from Brownsburg, Ind., was arrested Saturday for the use of false identification.
There was a theft from a motor vehicle with an SIU parking decal Monday in Lot 4. There are no suspects.
Arba Joel Rupert, a 32-year-old senior from Carbondale was arrested Tuesday in Lot 24 for a suspended driver's license.

PRAVIN

CONTINUED FROM 1

“From the first day I met him he knew how to light up a room,” she said. “I can’t remember a time when I was mad at him.”
Dakota Reynolds, a junior from Manteno studying nursing, said coping with Varughese’s death is a daily struggle.
“Sometimes it will hit you hard and sometimes you’re just like, ‘Did this thing

happen?’” she said. “It’s like he’s still two doors down from me. He’s still there.”
Gray said the celebration helps the grieving process.
“Everybody deserves something to be said or done for them,” he said. “We need to do something to acknowledge their passing and the contribution to the community that they lived in.”
Birdsell said she wanted to speak at the ceremony to help the public remember

Varughese as he truly was instead of associating him only with his death.
“We don’t want what may or may not have happened that night to be what people remember him by. We want people to remember him like how we remember him: as funny, outgoing, full of life and cheerful.”

Seth Richardson can be reached at srichardson@dailyegyptian.com

ROBY

CONTINUED FROM 1

When Poshard helped out at the orphanage and played with the children he said he felt like he was giving back in times of conflict.
“The kids gave us a sense of ‘Hey this is something worthwhile to be doing,’” he said. “This kind of humanized the experience. I loved going there and visiting with the children.”
Roby still keeps in contact with many people from the orphanage. She said many of them have multiple difficulties with relationships or forming careers, and a few have committed suicide.
“They’ve all done fairly well but not without great challenges,” Roby said.
Attachment is one thing orphans have a difficult time receiving because of their circumstances, she said.
“Attachment is much more important than

people realize now,” Roby said. “Children who have grown up in situations where they did not receive personal attention from individual caregivers have a very difficult time.”
Roby said she was lucky because her grandmother was a role model in her life until she was 11 years old. She said her grandmother, Yi Gye Sang, only gave her to the orphanage because she was at an age where it was getting difficult to take care of her.
“I had a very different foundation than many of the other orphans,” Roby said. “I attribute my attachment to her.”
At the time of her upbringing, her grandmother was not offered a formal education because of her gender, Roby said. Despite this, Roby said her grandmother was tenacious and valued education.
She would listen at the door during her brothers’ lessons in her home and at night, would steal her brothers’ books and study them, Roby said.

Her grandmother’s respect for learning helped influence her character, Roby said.
“My motto is to do whatever it takes, so that has something to do with that,” Roby said.
Roby also said her adoptive family, Americans who brought her to the United States, gave her opportunities which led her to live a better life.
The love and attachment she experienced with them led her to become secure and courageous enough to stand up for herself in any situations, she said.
“That kind of confidence, judgment came from the fact that I was loved and was given that sense of strength,” Roby said.
Roby said she was not surprised when Poshard, as a previous volunteer at the orphanage, contacted her.
“People who choose to use their personal time in that way, they already have certain values that have been bred into them,” Roby said. “I’m not at all surprised people like that become very successful in life.”

Kleinau
looks to the
‘AlieNations’

JAKE SAUNDERS
Daily Egyptian

What is going down at the Kleinau Theater this weekend could be described as “surreal realism.”
The performance “AlieNations,” from director Rebecca Walker, runs with an allegorical sense of image: the ways we are viewed by others and how we view ourselves. While the dialogue is serious, it is presented with a childlike whim through the use of puppets.
“AlieNations” puts the spotlight on what the audience would consider uncomfortable by observing the pop culture perception of an alien — an outcast, otherworldly or not.
“There’s a lot of creative work that we as a cast have had the opportunity to be a part of,” J.J. Cenicerros, a graduate student in speech communication from Perryton, Texas, said.
The piece suggests audience members’ personalities may be influenced by popular culture. The characters in the performance, fashioned by the actors who help create them, bring this theme to life.
“It’s a really collaborative piece in general, parts of the show are written and parts of it are devised,” Lindsay Greer, a doctoral student in performance and communication studies from Clare, Mich., said. “The devised parts are selected and edited by our director, who wrote the scripted parts.”
To call the performance a simple art piece is insufficient. It dives much deeper than that. The parts devised from the actors influence the theme as they bring the true human psyche into the performance — the actors developed their characters’ motivations from their own feelings and experiences.
“It’s not just written by our director, we created this piece and that just gives it a lot more value while on stage performing, as it has personal connection,” Karthi Veeramani, a graduate student in speech communication from St. Cloud, Minn., said.
The performance is loaded with relatable vehicles for thoughts, from romantic sub-plots to puppet work, a dance number and an array of creatively imagistic background compositions.
“It’s fun, it’s a really high-energy performance,” Cenicerros said.
“AlieNations” will be performed at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday in the Kleinau Theater.

DAILY EGYPTIAN
OPINION POLL

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Question: What keeps students from attending athletic events?

A - The start time of games is not accommodating

B - The tailgate/student section experience is sub-par

C - Students are unaware their student ID is their admission

D - Students are unaware of when games take place

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OPINION POLL RESULTS

The start time of games are not accomodating.
6%

The tailgate/student section is sub-par.
30%

Students are unaware their student ID is their admission
19%

Students are unaware of when games take place.
46%

*Results recorded on 02/26/2014 at 4:00PM

*THIS IS NOT A SCIENTIFIC POLL.
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THE RESULTS CANNOT BE ASSUMED TO REPRESENT THE OPINIONS OF INTERNET USERS IN GENERAL NOR THE PUBLIC AS A WHOLE.

A (hopefully) foolproof guide to the Oscars

KARSTEN BURGSTAHLER
Daily Egyptian

It’s been a winding road to the Oscars this year, with enough close races to make every nominee watch his or her back. The competition is so good even the best prognosticators are still at a loss to name a Best Picture.

Some categories are gimmies, like Best Supporting Actor. Others are hotly contested, like Best Supporting Actress. But no matter who wins, they’ll deserve it — there are no awkward choices this year. And we can only hope 2014 is as a good a year for film.

But only one can win, so before viewers fill out their ballots here are some picks to consider:

Best Picture
Will Win: “12 Years a Slave”
Could Win: “Gravity”

This race is so close that these movies switch frontrunner status every day. The Oscars have a preferential ballot, meaning if no movie has a clear margin of victory in the number one spot, the Academy considers voters’ second and third choices. If the number one spot is evenly split, “Gravity” could have the upper hand. But most prognosticators are going with “12 Years a Slave,” which is a pretty good bet; the best reasoning behind this is while “Gravity” is a spectacle that redefines sci-fi filmmaking, “12 Years a Slave” is the most important American film in quite some time, shining a light on a darkness that has been allowed to settle for too long. Plus “Gravity”’s screenplay isn’t universally loved, while “12 Years” is widely expected to win for its screenplay. “American Hustle” is beloved by the actors branch, the largest voting membership in the Academy, but it just doesn’t have the steam these other two movies have picked up. “Gravity” will still have its share of treasure...

Best Director
Will Win: Alfonso Cuaron, “Gravity”
Could Win: Steve McQueen, “12 Years a Slave”

McQueen is really a long shot here. Cuaron had this race wrapped the moment audiences walked out of “Gravity” and came back down to Earth. The film is groundbreaking and uses multiple techniques Cuaron had to invent to produce the movie. Just as Ang Lee was the real star of last year’s “Life of Pi” and was rewarded for it, so too will Cuaron receive his due here. It’s about time. McQueen is a worthy contender but didn’t exactly reinvent the wheel with “12 Years,” although the

way he holds his camera on suffering is unsettling, yet perfect. David O. Russell will probably just miss out for “American Hustle;” his actors rule the show, but this year’s acting race is fierce and he very well could be shut out there too.

Best Actor
Will Win: Matthew McConaughey, “Dallas Buyers Club”
Could Win: Chiwetel Ejiofor, “12 Years a Slave”

This category belonged to Ejiofor a few months ago when “12 Years” began screening for critics. The way he holds his emotions as he witnesses the brutality of the plantations he has been sold in to is award-worthy by itself. Audiences can see the pain in his eyes and connect with him far more than any other character in the film. McConaughey has come upon what some members of the media call the “McConissance.” He has brought his career up from travesties like “Fool’s Gold” and reinvented himself as a serious actor, losing most of his body weight to play AIDS patient Ron Woodruff. The role is worthy of the award, but the story behind it will push McConaughey over the top.

Best Actress
Will Win: Cate Blanchett, “Blue Jasmine”
Could Win: Amy Adams, “American Hustle”

It’s a shame Sandra Bullock was never given much of a chance, because her one-woman show in “Gravity” is mesmerizing. But the probable winner is a one-woman show in another sense. In “Blue Jasmine,” all the characters revolve around Blanchett’s psychotic ex-wife, who is scorned by her Bernie Madoff-like husband. Woody Allen has taken to casting other actors to fill his neurotic part in his movies, and Blanchett gets the opportunity to play the female version here. One scene in particular, where Blanchett takes her nephews out for ice cream, is comedy gold. Amy Adams might have had a shot in an easier year, but Blanchett has this competition wrapped up. Just don’t expect Allen to be present.

Best Supporting Actor
Will Win: Jared Leto, “Dallas Buyers Club”
Could Win: Barkhad Abdi, “Captain Phillips”

Leto is about as sure as Blanchett is, having swept the awards season so far. However, Abdi has a rags-to-riches story that epitomizes the American Dream, and he’s been making the rounds. A few

months after Leto began campaigning for “Dallas Buyers Club” it became widely known that his character Rayon, a transgendered prostitute who works closely with McConaughey’s Woodruff to provide lifesaving drugs to HIV patients, didn’t actually exist — this might have hurt Leto’s chances, but moreso McConaughey’s chances as it came out Woodruff wasn’t exactly the savior the film made him out to be. Neither appear to be hurt though, so expect Leto to give another triumphant speech Oscar night.

Best Supporting Actress
Will Win: Jennifer Lawrence, “American Hustle”
Could Win: Lupita Nyong’o, “12 Years a Slave”

Will Win/Could Win is deceptive on this one, as they have an equal chance of winning. This race is even closer than Best Actor was a few months ago. However, I’m sticking with Lawrence, the theory being that voters want to award “American Hustle” somehow and this is the most likely category for it to happen in. “12 Years” will probably end up with Best Picture, and Academy members will want to spread the wealth. Lawrence is perfect as her bored housewife in “Hustle,” not taking too much screentime but dominating when she is present. Her battle with a “science oven” is just the cherry on top. Nyong’o is equally deserving of the award as Patsey, a slave Ejiofor comes across in “12 Years.” Her performance is heartwrenching and could cause “American Hustle” to miss out on the Oscars completely.

Best Original Screenplay
Will Win: Spike Jonze, “Her”
Could Win: Eric Warren Singer and David O. Russell, “American Hustle”

“American Hustle” has the best screenplay of the year hands down. But the voters often go with the quirkier pick here, and Jonze’s screenplay is unique and inventive — something the voters have fallen in love with. Therefore, his story of a man who falls in love with a Siri-type operating system is the most likely candidate to take the gold here, bolstered by the “spread the wealth” theory, that this is the only place “Her” has a shot at being awarded. The same could be said for “American Hustle” beyond Jennifer Lawrence, so don’t count it out too quickly.

Best Adapted Screenplay
Will Win: John Ridley, “12 Years a Slave”
Could Win: Terrence Winter, “The Wolf of Wall Street”

“12 Years,” adapted from Solomon

Northup’s memoir, is the clear frontrunner here. The fact it took this long for “12 Years” to be adapted is surprising, but Ridley manages to take the material and make those nightmarish scenarios come to life without missing a beat. Really, the only other option in this category is Winter’s “Wolf of Wall Street” screenplay, which mischievous voters might award for its grandeur. It does, after all, have the most f-words of all time, coming in at just north of 500. That is an achievement in and of itself, but the quaaludes scene, one of the most talked about moments at the cinema last year, cements it with a decent chance.

A brief look at other categories:

Best Animated Feature
Will Win: “Frozen”
Could Win: Absolutely nothing else

Best Cinematography
Will Win: Emmanuel Lubezki, “Gravity”
Could Win: Phedon Papamichael, “Nebraska” (But quite unlikely. “Gravity” has this wrapped up.)

Best Editing
Will Win: Alfonso Cuaron and Mark Sanger, “Gravity”
Could Win: Christopher Rouse, “Captain Phillips” (This race is fairly close and Rouse has a good shot at winning, but all the love for the technical side of “Gravity” should propel Cuaron and Sanger to the win.)

Best Visual Effects
Will Win: Tim Webber, Chris Lawrence, Dave Shirk and Neil Corbould, “Gravity”
Could Win: Roger Guyett, Patrick Tubach, Ben Grossmann and Burt Dalton, “Star Trek Into Darkness” (Also quite unlikely. Yet again, “Gravity” has this wrapped up.)

Best Original Score
Will Win: Steven Price, “Gravity”
Could Win: William Butler and Owen Pallett, “Her”

Best Original Song
Will Win: “Let it Go,” “Frozen”
Could Win: “Ordinary Love,” “Mandela: A Long Walk to Freedom”

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PARKING

CONTINUED FROM 1

Diggle said last year, the school generated nearly \$900,000 in decals alone.

Bame said because of the additional spaces, decal revenue is projected to increase by nearly \$200,000. He said he expects the revenue to be near \$1.2 million this year. The money generated from decals is distributed to different needs within the parking lots, he said.

“We have, what we call, a traffic and parking fund,” he said. “From that, we pay to maintain the lots, do the snow removal of parking lots, pay for exterior lighting and run the street sweeper that we have on campus.”

Diggle said parking decals are always changing. When renovations are complete in Woody Hall, decals will change, as many offices in the old Greek Row relocate there.

“The parking agents every day do lot counts on various lots so we can see what the patterns and trends are. It varies every semester,” she said.

The university is planning renovations to several roads on campus funded by the possible decal price increases.

Bame said the university is working on a design for additions and renovations to the Communications Building. Once completed, Lincoln Drive will be rerouted around the west side of the new structure.

The Capital Development Board will fund the project at a cost of \$74 million to the State of Illinois. The blueprint may be complete in 18 months, and construction will begin if the government has bonds available.

“The concept for the building now is to move a little towards the north and a little to the east, which would then encroach Lincoln Drive,” he said. “There is a fair amount of traffic that moves fairly quickly and we think that we can divert



JAKE HAINES • DAILY EGYPTIAN

City lot 3, next to the Blue Barracks, sits unused Wednesday at the intersection of Grand Avenue and Illinois Avenue. The lot is leased by SIU for \$10,000 a year. It is one of two new decal lots available, the other being 13A across from Neckers Building, which was previously a metered lot.

some of that around the communications building. It will create more of a pedestrian friendly access to the building. It will create another quad type area.”

While new renovations are on the way, students are still receiving tickets. Diggle said last year, the university generated more than \$785,000 in parking fines.

William Recktenwald, representative of the Faculty Senate, said students who think they do not deserve a ticket can appeal to the Traffic & Parking Appeal Board.

The appeal board consists of representatives from the Faculty Senate, the Civil Service Council, Administrative and Professional Staff Council, and the Graduate and Professional Student Council. Recktenwald said in previous years, there has been a representative from the Undergraduate Student Government, but he has not seen one yet this semester.

“It’s very disappointing that the Undergraduate Student Government does not have a regular attendee, considering that most of the tickets we

look at are undergraduate students,” he said.

Recktenwald said three of the five members must agree the violation is not ticket-worthy to get a ticket appealed. He said appeals may be emailed or written. The petitioner then appears before the board in one of the three annual meetings in the student center.

“We give people the opportunity to tell their story, to tell why they parked in the wrong place,” he said. “We often consider the fact that people make mistakes.”

About 60 percent of people who say they are going to appear before the board do not show up to the expected meeting, Recktenwald said. He said about half of the people that show up get their tickets dismissed or reduced.

Recktenwald said the most common violation is when students with stickers park in metered lots or 15 minute areas.

Luke Nozicka can be reached at lnozicka@dailyegyptian.com

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STAFF COLUMNS

Overcrowded classrooms hurt everyone

SARAH SCHNEIDER
Daily Egyptian

The public’s rightful concern for protecting special education students clouded the similar intentions of the Illinois State Board of Education in the board’s attempt to drop a long-standing rule regarding class ratios.

The board was set to vote Jan. 22 to drop the 70/30 rule stipulating no more than 70 percent of a class can be made up of general education students, and no more than 30 percent can be special education students. But because of overwhelming opposition, the board dropped the vote entirely.

Since February 2013, when the board proposed dropping the rule, the state has received nearly 6,000 public comments. Only 365 of those comments were in favor of the board while the rest urged the ruling be kept.

Dropping the rule would have given school districts the authority to determine for the first time in more than 30 years how many special education students would be in general education courses.

Opponents feared that power to determine

class makeup would be used to increase already overcrowded classrooms. The Illinois Education Association called the proposal the worst thing to happen to Illinois students in decades. Because of the state’s annual cuts to public education, opponents said if an already-struggling district were given the power, it might put students in an overcrowded, understaffed class, which would be difficult for both teachers and students.

Proponents said lifting the rule would have allowed special education students more class options as well as easing burdens on smaller school districts. The board’s intention in lifting the rule was to focus on students’ needs being met rather than a ratio. In smaller districts, the ratio limited some students from being able to join some classes.

Shelley Nacke, assistant superintendent for education services at Carpentersville District 300, said after the meeting in a press conference that students in her district would have had more curriculum options with lenient restrictions.

She voiced what many opponents felt but never vocalized: that the real issue is class size, not the 70/30 rule. The board had good intentions in

Notice

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dropping the rule in an attempt to provide more opportunities to special education students, but dropping the rule entirely was not the way to protect those students.

“There were many educators and parents who strongly opposed increasing class sizes and weren’t overly concerned about lifting the 70/30 rule. We are disappointed that the two issues were not considered separately on their own merits,” Nacke told the Northwest Herald.

Parents and educators have every right to fear school districts would have taken advantage of the authority to set limits. Because lifting the rule would undoubtedly save money for school districts that are fighting to keep enough teachers as it is.

Overcrowded classes hurt all students, not just special education students. When one-on-one interaction is lost, the students don’t get the attention they need.

The board made a mistake in trying to drop the rule entirely and should have instead given the districts the authority to set limits but with a check and balance system to be held accountable.

GRE not an adequate precursor

KAYLI PLOTNER
Daily Egyptian

It’s the last semester of college. You have managed to conquer four years of all-nighters, 18-page papers and working yourself to death. But you’re an overachiever and applying to grad schools to continue your education, better your life and expand your horizons. So what do you get in return? Another test.

The Graduate Record Exam, or college senior cause of death, is just another way for the hierarchy of public institutions to refer to you as a number in their accounts receivable. Applying to college the first time was hard enough, but now, after you have proven you are worthy of a bachelor’s degree, it’s back to square one to prove your worth based on how you fill in a bubble.

According to fairtest.org, the GRE is incapable of predicting success, with the exam accounting for only 9 percent of the variation among grades of first-year graduate students.

Now, standardized testing is perfectly effective at measuring ability in some areas of study. However, there are plenty of disciplines where it is not. However not all areas of academia can be measured with a cookie-cutter test.

According to a 1997 study conducted at Yale University assessing the relationship between GRE scores and grade point average, the predictive power of the exam dropped to

1 percent when comprehensive measures of performance, such as faculty assessments, were used. Thus, one test cannot serve as an indicator of how successful a student will be in the classroom.

The GRE website states their test combined with undergraduate grade point average act as predictors of long-term success in graduate school. However, when analyzing the sample size, you will see that only students studying biology, chemistry, education, English, and psychology are used. Their report (Predicting Long-Term Success in Graduate School: A Collaborative Validity Study; Burton, Wang, 2005) also states these fields were chosen because of their high enrollment, and are intended to serve as a representative database. Hold the phone; you can study more than just the five disciplines they base their logic off of. You can’t base the success of every graduate student in America off of five different subjects.

And what about majors that aren’t even testable? If you’re getting a masters degree in creative writing, or French or theology, the bubble you fill in will not help determine whether or not you’re the next Earnest Hemingway. It simply will force you to waste your time preparing for the exam, while you could be focusing on what you’re writing now.

Now, sifting through

applications is by no means a fun time, but considering the thousands of dollars about to be handed to whatever university has struck your fancy, why are graduate-school deadlines so early? Of course you have all the time in the world to submit excessively extensive applications with my useless GRE score during midterms. Who wouldn’t?

So what is the solution to this corrupt system? There isn’t one. Actually, there is, but it takes boatloads of money and requires university administrators to care about what kind of students they bring in rather than who they can squeeze the last penny out of. But the deadline is not the issue, rather it’s that when facing the life-accomplishment of graduation, being tested again is simply unfair.

Plenty of universities have adopted a truly holistic admissions process — several others claim to have done the same, but still put you through the hell of the GRE.

A number of schools in Illinois, including Northwestern, Columbia and DePaul, have done away with GRE scores as requirements for graduate applications. These schools only look at undergraduate grades, essays, recommendations and conduct personal interviews. Now wouldn’t that just be great: an educational institution that wants you for you rather than what you scored on a test. The problem is those schools tend to cost twice what a public university does and

chances of an assistantship are slim to none. It’s a rock and a hard place, and unfair that a truly holistic approach to choosing graduate students is (for the majority of fields) only utilized by private institutions. Using the GRE to sort students is unfair, and ineffective when there are, although more time consuming, more adequate approaches available.

So to my fellow overachievers who want that extra piece of paper hanging in their office someday, here’s some light at the end of the tunnel. The GRE is not a process that follows you and determines what kind of a student you are. It’s simply an obstacle you must be prepared to get over. Know what the GRE will consist of, but don’t rack your brain attempting to study for things you already do or don’t know. The format of the GRE has not changed in nearly 20 years. The only updates are the content and adding computers. So think of the GRE as a game rather than a test. Because all standardized tests are just a game, and one pre-season game never determines who wins the national title.

“Taking the GRE is a game with its own rules, traps, and measures of success...how you do on the GRE is an indication of how well you play the game, but it is not an indication of how ‘intelligent’ you are, or what kind of student you will make.” -Jacobson R.L., The Chronicle of Higher Education,

About Us

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 50 weeks per year, with an average daily circulation of 15,000. Fall and spring semester editions run Monday through Thursday. Summer editions run Tuesday through Thursday. All intersession editions run on Wednesdays. Free copies are distributed in the Carbondale and Carterville communities. The DAILY EGYPTIAN online publication can be found at www.dailyegyptian.com.

Mission Statement

The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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EVENTS

FEB. 27 -
MAR. 05

Pinch Penny Pub

Blackhawks vs. Penguins @ 7 p.m.

The Grotto Lounge

Sharon Clark Trio feat. Mel Goot and Ron Coulter @ 9 p.m.

Rustle Hill Winery

May Hay @ 6 - 9 p.m.

Von Jakob Vineyard

Rich Febec Jazz @ 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Starview Winery

Ol' Moose & Friends @ 3 - 7 p.m.

Student Center

SPC Films Presents: Hunger Games: Catching Fire @ 7 and 10 p.m. \$2 SIU Students w/ ID \$3 General Public \$2 Children

Communications Building

McLeod Theater: Die Fledermaus @ 7:30 p.m.

SIU Arena

Women's Basketball vs. Wichita State @ 6:05 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Illinois State @ 3:05 p.m.

Rent One Park - Marion

Baseball vs. Northern Illinois @ 2 p.m.

Sunday 02

Pinch Penny Pub

Blues vs Coyotes @ 7 p.m.

The Grotto Lounge

Home-Style Comfort Food Sunday

Blue Sky Winery

Roxy Randle @ 2 - 5 p.m.

Von Jakob Vineyard

Dave Caputo Duo @ 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Rent One Park - Marion

Baseball vs. Northern Illinois @ 2 p.m.

Monday 03

Student Health Center

Auditorium: Wellness Workshop: Talk that Talk @ 2 - 3 p.m.

Tuesday 04

Student Center

SIU Social Work Day @ 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Paul Simon Public Policy Institute

Pizza and Politics with Tony Mayville @ 5 -6 p.m.

Student Services Building

Suit 0150, 160, 170: Explore Your Career Fair @ 3 - 5 p.m.

The Grotto Lounge

Prime Rib Night

Student Health Center

Wellness Workshop: How To Be A Sleep Pro @ 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday 05

Student Services Building

Lobby: CASA Networking Event @ 5 - 6 p.m.

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LEWIS MARIEN • DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIU sophomore guard Anthony Beane Jr. drives past sophomore guard Ka'Darryl Bell Feb. 18 during the Salukis' 75-64 win against Bradley University. Beane scored 17 points as SIU lost to the University of Northern Iowa 73-54 Wednesday in Cedar Falls, Iowa, dropping the team to 8-9 in the Missouri Valley Conference. The Salukis will play the Illinois State University Redbirds Saturday at 3:05 p.m. at SIU Arena.

Panthers get revenge on Dawgs

TYLER DIXON
Daily Egyptian

In the eighth straight loss at the McLeod Center, the Salukis tried to clinch the sixth seed in the Missouri Valley Conference standings but the Panthers had other plans.

SIU (12-18, 8-9) stole a win at home Jan. 14 but the University of Northern Iowa (15-14, 9-8) utilized its home court advantage for a 73-54 win over the Salukis.

Sophomore guard Anthony Beane continued to be the best scoring option for the Salukis. Beane finished with 17 points on 6 of 11 shooting.

The SIU defense has been solid as of late but allowed three Panthers to score at least 15 points. Junior Seth Tuttle led UNI with 19 points and was 7 of 8 from the free-throw line. He added seven rebounds and seven assists, as well.

Tuttle had more assists than the

entire SIU roster. Only one Saluki assist came from a starter.

A strength of the Salukis has been offensive rebounding. Freshman Bola Olaniyan had more offensive rebounds than the entire University of Evansville team Saturday. SIU only had eight Wednesday to the Panthers 14.

Senior Bronson Verhines played only 22 minutes because of foul trouble but led the Salukis with six rebounds. Olaniyan found himself on the bench most of the game and didn't record a rebound, and only attempted one shot from the field.

Shot selection was a vice for SIU in the loss. They were 21 of 49 from the floor and 4 of 15 from the 3-point line.

One player on the court did not have a problem with finding his shot. UNI sophomore guard Matt Bohannon finished with 17 points and hit five 3-pointers. The Panthers

only had nine bench points to the Salukis' 14.

UNI was sent to the free-throw line 14 times and converted 11 attempts. SIU also shot the ball well and was 8 of 10 from the charity stripe.

The Salukis will try to win the final game of the season against Illinois State University Saturday at SIU Arena. Coach Barry Hinson said earlier in the season he wanted to reach the nine win plateau and a win Saturday would get SIU to 9-9 in the MVC.

As of last night, less than 1400 tickets remained for the game. Ticket prices have been lowered, starting at \$5. The men's game starts at 3:05 p.m. with the women's game tipping off at 6:05 p.m.

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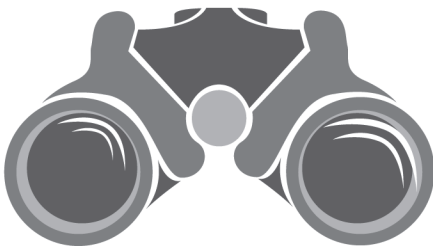
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Gold medalist shows weight is no obstacle



JAKE HAINES • DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sophomore thrower Josh Freeman broke the SIU indoor shot put record held for 30 years by his throwing coach John Smith Jan. 25 at the Notre Dame Invitational. Freeman is ranked 12th nationally and second in the Missouri Valley Conference for shot put. Freeman also qualified for the Pan-Am Junior Athletics Championships in Medellin, Columbia in 2013 and said confidence played a key role. “When you spend three months out of the year training for something, you kind of have to go in with that confidence,” he said.



AARON vs. ATHLETES
STAFF COLUMN

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My ability to throw a baseball is equivalent to Josh Freeman’s ability to throw a 16-pound shot put.

I challenged Freeman to a best of three throws shot put competition. In high school, Freeman was a two-time United States of America Track and Field All-American and won the 2012 3A state title in Illinois in the shot put and discus.

In first grade, I picked up a shot put at track and field camp.

Freeman won the outdoor Missouri Valley Conference championship as a freshman and came in second in the indoor MVC championship. This year’s indoor championships will be this weekend in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

When a shot put thrower does not use proper form, he or she can tear a rotator cuff. Freeman taught me how to throw correctly just before my attempt and showed me a six-pound shot put to throw.

Regardless of the huge weight advantage I had, Freeman still threw a 14-pound shot put more than twice the distance I threw the six-pounder.

It’s no surprise Freeman broke SIU’s shot put record in January, which was formerly held by throws coach, John Smith, for nearly 30 years.

Even though my shot put was one of the lightest ones, I still almost broke my arm.

Freeman won a gold medal at the Pan Am Junior Championships games in the summer and is in position to attend the national tournament as well. The NCAA takes the top 16 throws, Freeman has the 12th best mark with only one more week to qualify.

Smith said I reminded him of a high school shot put thrower who was just starting. He put it in perspective by saying he has a girl on the team who can throw the six-pound shot put more than 20 meters and Freeman could probably throw it 27.

I threw it six and a half meters, and clearly, did not train hard enough.

Freeman said throwers’ training consists of a lot of eating and lifting. He said he gets pumped up before his throws by listening to music and thinking of all the sacrifices he has made for the sport.

In January, coach Connie Price-Smith took Freeman’s and junior Curtis Wideman’s headphones until they threw a specific mark. At first, Freeman said he was upset at first, but it made him want to do better. He said long bus rides became more loathing without music and said Wideman is more upset because he still hasn’t gotten

his headphones back.

Throwers have an interesting diet. In fact, Smith nicknamed it the “caveman diet” because they eat anything once alive. He said one thrower even ate four pounds of steak in one sitting with a baked potato and green beans.

Even with the unique training, Smith said track and field athletes usually do well in other sports, but athletes from other sports usually don’t do well in track and field.

I only played golf in high school, but Freeman noticed my potential in shot put. He told me to lift more and eat more, and to not throw the shot put like a baseball, which is why my rotator cuff hurt afterwards.

His encouragement was not surprising either. Track and Field is a universal sport. In big moments, athletes sometimes start slow claps for everyone to join, even the opponents. I started a slow clap for my final throw. Freeman and his teammates joined in. It gave me so much energy to cause a fault, but it was friendly competition.

Whether or not his words of encouragement were real, I have started the caveman diet, but probably won’t start with more than four pounds of food at a time.

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Saluki football builds strength with local talent

TONY MCDANIEL
Daily Egyptian

SIU did not have to travel far to find players it would need to boost its 2014 offense.

On signing day, SIU gained 18 freshmen for the 101st season of Saluki football. Of the 18, four will have the convenience of playing football for their local university.

SIU signed hometown wide receiver Shamarc Bursey. Last season for Carbondale Community High School, Bursey had 67 catches for 940 yards and 15 touchdowns on his way to being named to the 5A All-State Team. Bursey also tied a state record last year with 20 catches in a game against Centralia High School.

Bursey played under Nick Hill for the Terriers in 2013. Hill was hired to be the quarterback coach for SIU, giving Bursey the unique chance to play college football for his high school coach.

Hill said Bursey brings great athletic ability to SIU.

“Shamarc was the best, most explosive player in southern Illinois last year,” he said. “He’s a kid that came to work every single day, I never had to ask him to play hard for us from the first day I got to know him.”

Bursey was recruited heavily out of high school. Among

the schools Bursey received interest from were Football Bowl Subdivision powerhouses the University of Arkansas, the University of California and the University of Wisconsin. Bursey said the biggest reason he chose SIU was so he could stay close to home, but playing for coach Hill will help him settle in at the Football Championship Subdivision level.

“I’ll know the offense already,” Bursey said. “[Coach Hill] said he would keep some things similar to what we did in high school.”

Another local player may end up throwing passes in Bursey’s direction.

Brant Hill played quarterback for Marion High School last season, but played wide receiver for the Wildcats as well. The Salukis signed Brant as a quarterback and wide receiver.

“I played receiver my junior year,” Brant said. “I didn’t get thrown to a lot until four games into the season. I ended up with pretty good numbers for a few games. I really liked it.”

Last season, Brant passed for 1,463 yards with 12 touchdowns. Brant was a dual-threat quarterback in high school. He was able to get out of the pocket and run for 563 yards and five touchdowns.

Brant is also an Internet sensation. A video of him hitting a

full court shot in basketball against Salem High School last season has more than 365,000 hits.

Brant said he is excited at the prospect of playing for SIU.

“That’s one of the main reasons I chose this university,” he said. “It’s close to home so I love having my dad right down the road.”

The Salukis also signed two players from Carterville High School; a running back and wide receiver.

Michael Aschemann played quarterback last season for the Lions and put up big numbers. As a dual-threat quarterback, Aschemann scored a total of 46 touchdowns, 31 through the air and another 15 on the ground. Aschemann totaled over 2,500 yards of offense last season for Carterville and made the All-State team his junior and senior year.

Even with all of Aschemann’s accomplishments at quarterback, he will play wide receiver for the Salukis this fall. Nick said Aschemann is mentally mature enough to handle the transition from passer to receiver.

“He’s an athlete. In Carterville’s offense they didn’t ask him to do a ton throwing the football,” Nick said. “I don’t think it will be much of an issue for him. He’s a good kid and a hard worker. He’ll come in and compete.”

Phillip Frangello played

“**Sharmac (Bursey) was the best, most explosive player in southern Illinois last year. He’s a kid that came to work every single day, I never had to ask him to play hard for us, from the first day I got to know him.**

— Nick Hill
SIU quarterback coach

running back at Carterville last year and will also join the Salukis for the fall season. Frangello carried the ball for 1,712 yards and 25 touchdowns en route to being named an All-State honorable mention. Frangello wrestles and runs track making him a three-sport athlete for the Lions.

Frangello also excels in the classroom. Last season, he was named an Illinois State Scholar and was recruited to play football by Harvard University.

Frangello said he looks forward to spending his time as a Saluki with Aschemann.

“It will be nice to have someone I already have a personal and athletic relationship with on the team,” Frangello said. “We will both be able to make sure each other wake up after the weekends to go to practice. It’s going to be nice to play with someone I’ve already been with.”

Last season, Aschemann and Frangello led the lions to a 9-0 regular season and they both shared the player of the year award for the Southern Illinois River-to-River Conference.

Coach Hill said there is no guarantee of playing time to any of the incoming freshmen.

“It’s up to them [when they play] they’ve got to come in here and work,” Hill said. “It’s always nice as a freshman, even when I played, if you can get that redshirt year and get stronger, faster and learn the system. It just makes things easier.”

The new additions to the team will open their first season as Salukis Sep. 6 against the Panthers of Eastern Illinois University.

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Construction workers need extra innings

AARON GRAFF
Daily Egyptian

Athletes and fans anticipating home games at the new Itchy Jones Stadium will have to wait another two weeks.

The Saluki baseball team will host Northern Illinois University this weekend, but at Rent One Park in Marion. The series was scheduled to be at Itchy Jones Stadium, which has been under construction since July, but cold weather and precipitation have prevented construction crews from finishing on time.

Friday and Saturday are scheduled to start at 2 p.m. and Sunday is scheduled for 1 p.m., with free admission on Sunday.

Marion's forecast has freezing temperatures during the weekend. Coach Ken Henderson said the team is still considering moving the series to Memphis or Nashville, since it won't be ideal baseball weather.

Mark Anderson, the superintendent of Fager McGee Commercial Construction, said the field is ready to play on and the dugouts are complete, but if the team played Friday it would not be accessible for handicapped spectators.

"If (SIU) wanted to make it happen, they probably could," Anderson said. "It just won't be picture perfect."

Andy Pettit, Associate Athletic Director, has been overseeing the project. He said the team could play a game any time because they have all the necessities, but it will not be ready for the fans because it will take construction crews two days to clean up all equipment.

Henderson said it is the right call to move the series out of Carbondale because the stadium won't be completely safe for spectators.

"We don't want to play in it until it's ready," he said.

This is the first year SIU is charging admission for tickets. Season tickets

were up to \$75. The tickets will be valid at Rent One Park.

Anderson said he expects to have all the spectator seating finished by Friday, but because of freezing temperatures from Wednesday to Friday, it will be a tough task.

Pettit said average temperatures during construction were four degrees below the average during winter, which prevented construction crews from completing the job on time. He said they could not pour concrete or lay blocks when the ground is frozen because it will rise, fall or crack when the ground thaws.

"When the ground is so frozen, 12 to 14 inches deep, you have to wait days and days of good sunshine just for it to thaw out to pour the concrete," Pettit said.

Pettit said the snow and ice stayed long enough for contractors to build tents, which heated the area. He said the crew was not going to rush perfection.

"Everything that's done there is done right," Pettit said. "There are no shortcuts down there, the cold weather is the only culprit there is in this thing. Everybody is working their butts off."

Nobody on the team is stressing about the games being moved.

"We're excited to get on it and play games on it," Henderson said. "Our kids have handled it well and we're going to play a lot of games on it over the years, so it doesn't hurt to wait a couple more weeks."

Anderson said in hindsight, construction should have started in May, but the winter was too unpredictable that far in advance.

Pettit said the stadium will be ready for the next home series against the University of Illinois March 14-16. The dedication ceremony is March 13 at 3 p.m.

"We'll be ready for the Illinois series," Pettit said.

Director of Athletics Mario

Moccia said he wanted to open the stadium for the NIU series, but he was out voted because of the baseball connections between SIU and Illinois.

Pettit said it was better to have the opening before the Illinois series since Itchy Jones coached at both schools, and U of I's coach, Dan Hartleb, played for SIU. He said he would have liked NIU to play here to work out any issues for the ceremony.

"Mario (Moccia) is never a fan of having a series in the stadium and then dedicating two weeks later," Pettit said. "It just made sense, with (Jones) coaching at Illinois."

The Illinois series will begin a seven game home stretch which features Eastern Illinois University and Purdue University.

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